Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF

September 26, 2011

Present and Voting:  Debbie Evans, DeWayne Townsend, Nicholas Kakos, Peter McLaughlin, Wizard Marks  (At-Large Alternate for Redirection), Robert Lilligren (Alternate City Council), Kerri Pearce Ruch (Alternate for Gail Dorfman), Lydia Lee, David Ellis, Senator Ken Kelash

Alternates Attending:  Jeffrey Strand

Absent:  Carol Pass, Mark Stenglein, R.T. Rybak, Rep. Joe Mullery, Annie Young (excused)

Staff:  Bob Miller, Carsten Slostad, and Barbara Lickness

Others Present:  Gary Arntsen, Elena Gaarder, Hani Mohamad

I.  CALL TO ORDER

Senator Ken Kelash, chair of the NRP Policy Board, called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

II.  APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion by DeWayne Townsend and seconded by David Ellis, the agenda was adopted.

III.  APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon a motion by David Ellis and seconded by DeWayne Townsend, the minutes of the August 22, 2011 meeting were adopted.

IV.  ACTION ITEM

1.  FY 2012 NRP Administrative Budget

As done in past years, Bob Miller presented an administrative budget for review by the Policy Board.  Unlike past years, this budget is consistent with the Mayor’s budget proposal, which indicates that there will be a phasing out of NRP during 2012.  This budget is for a partial year.  Also in the budget resolution is a directive to close contracts prior to 2007 that are inactive and return encumbered funds to the source that supplied the funding for the contract.  The chair requested that a list of all of these contracts be presented and that there be proper notification prior to taking action on closing contracts.
V. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

1. Candidates for Neighborhood Representative Election

Bob Miller reported that there are eight candidates for eight positions. The election will decide who will be the representative and who will be the alternate. The election will be held on November 17th.

2. Bryant Neighborhood Phase I NRP Action Plan Review

Barb Lickness, NRP staff for the Bryant neighborhood, presented the review. This plan, which goes back to 1995, focused on three areas; housing, youth and family services, and community involvement. She did a quick review of some of the neighborhood’s projects and programs. Bob Miller also highlighted three partnerships that helped restore the Hosmer Library, which helped build the Phelps Park Gym with the Boys & Girls Club, and accomplished the 40th Street Greenway project. Upon a motion by Robert Lilligren and seconded by Jeffrey Strand the review was received and filed.

3. Cedar Riverside Phase I NRP Action Plan Review

Elena Gaarder and Honi Mohamed presented the review. Rather than focus on specific projects, Elena highlighted the neighborhood’s ability to leverage funds especially in the infrastructure. Improvements to and location of the LRT station in the Cedar Riverside neighborhood was presented as an example of this. Secondly, partnerships relating to neighborhood livability issues and perceptions of safety in the neighborhood were mentioned. Honi further explained that the NRP Safety Committee actually united the neighborhood despite differences in the neighborhood over NRP. Finally, Elena highlighted the investments made in the youth of the neighborhood. Upon a motion by Peter McLaughlin and seconded by Debbie Evans the review was received and filed.

VI. POLICY ITEM

1. Actions Needed Before December 31, 2011

Bob Miller introduced this discussion as an opportunity for Policy Board members to list their concerns about actions needed before the ending of the Joint Powers Agreement. The following concerns were presented by the members: 1) Continuance of NRP Policy Board Policies that could be used or updated by a new entity. 2) Concerns about the status of the existing staff and how they might transfer to NCR. 3) Concern about the location and maintenance of “PlanNet NRP” and the NRP website. 4) Concern about the transfer of NRP liability issues. 5) Concerns about Audits, Director’s & Officers Insurance as well as access to affordable Liability insurance. 6) Concern about rocess for
neighborhoods to access NRP funds and how new contracting of NRP funds will be done. 7) Concerns about total closure and how this will work. The chair requested that a formal transfer document be developed to deal with these concerns prior to the end of the Joint Powers Agreement on December 31st. The chair also raised concerns about providing options for personnel such as severance packages.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm

Carsten Slostad, Secretary Pro Tem

ATTEST: Senator Ken Kelash, Chair